RG104 E-1 Box 124 June-Sept 1881

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., May 13th, 1881

A. Loudon Snowden, Esq.

Superintendent U.S. Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th inst., relating to the charges of Messrs Naimes and Vance above the contract price is received & has been considered. As the contract does not specify the kind I think that Mr. Naimes is bound to furnish thread at not exceeding $1.75 per lb., & at a quality equal to the sample accompanying or referred to in his bid.

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As the bill of screws was furnished before March 7th, the date of the approval by this office of the contract, Mr. Vance is not bound to deliver them at that price, if not above the market price you are justified in paying what he charges. The only correction therefore, to be made is upon the charge of Mr. Haines for thread, as you say that he proposes to deduct the amount — $1.50 — from a future bill I will approve the account as it stands rather than enter a disapproval upon the account when forwarded to the auditor.

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As to charging the entire expense for wages of workmen in the Melters and Refiners & Engravers departments to the appropriation for the coinage of the standard silver dollar, referred to in your letter of May 10th, I repeat that as far as practicable it is desirable, even if it occasions more trouble, that this appropriation should pay only such portion of the expense as is actually incurred in connection with the coinage of silver dollars. The expenditure at your Mint during the present fiscal year from that appropriation has been quite

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heavy, & if this fact should invite inquiry and an examination should be made of the objects for which the money was used, it is desirable that the account itself should show on its face and without special explanation the propriety and legality of such payments.

With the explanation of yours of May 10th that nothing has been paid on the Melters & Refiners & Engravers rolls from the appropriation for the coinage of the standard silver dollar heretofore, and that three-fourths of the work in the former, and one-half in the latter, was

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in connection with the coinage of the standard silver dollar, I have concluded to approve it, but hereafter I would prefer that the rolls for each month be divided and only such portion be paid from this fund as is properly chargeable to it.

Very respectfully,

Horatio C. Burchard

Director

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~~1889½~~

R. M.

Wash, D. C.
May 13/81

H. C. Bulkhead

Adjutant by over=
charges by J. M. Vincent
and Granville B. Haines 1st,
The Account should
show without explana=
tion the Amt paid
per Operation Orders
from the appropria=
tions for Coining
Standard Silver Dol=
lars.

Rec'd May 14/81

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 124

[Abstract:] Adjustment of over-charges… 489 ½

Treasury Department,
Bureau of the Mint,
Washington, D.C.,
May 13, 1881

A. Loudon Snowden, Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th inst. relating to the charges of Messrs. Haines and Vance above the contract price is received & has been considered. As the contract does not specify the kind I think that Mr. Haines is bound to furnish thread at not exceeding $1.75 per lb., & at a quality equal to the sample accompanying on referred to in his bid.

As the bill of screws was furnished before March 7th, the date of the approval by this office of the contract, Mr. Vance is not bound to deliver them at that price, & if not above the market price you are justified in paying what he charges. The only correction, therefore, to be made is upon the charge of Mr. Haines for thread, & as you say that he proposes to deduct the amount - $1.50 - from a future bill I will approve the account as it stands rather than enter a disapproval upon the account when forwarded to the auditor.

As to charging the entire expense for wages of workmen in the Melter and Refiner's & Engraver's departments to the appropriation for the coinage of the standard silver dollar, referred to in your letter of May 10th, I repeat that as far as practicable it is desirable, even if it occasions more trouble, that this appropriation should pay only such portion of the expense as is actually incurred in connection with the coinage of silver dollars. The expenditure at your Mint during the present fiscal year from that appropriation has been quite heavy, & if this fact should invite inquiry and an examination should be made of the objects for which the money was used, it is desirable that the account itself should show on its face and without special explanation the propriety and legality of such payments.

With the explanation of yours of May 10th that nothing has been paid on the Melter and Refiner's & Engraver's rolls from the appropriation for the coinage of the standard silver dollar heretofore, and that three fourths of the work in the former, and one-half in the latter, was in connection with the coinage of the standard silver dollar, I have concluded to approve it, but hereafter I would prefer that the rolls for each month be divided and only such portion be paid from this fund as is properly chargeable to it.

Very respectfully,
Horatio C. Burchard
Director.